

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Method and System for Sticky Key Prevention for Keyboard or Keypad Devices

the specification of which: (check one)

XXX is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____
under Attorney's Docket Number RPS9 2000 0106
as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim the benefit of foreign priority under 35 USC 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application the priority of which is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Priority Claimed
 Yes No

(Number) _____ (Country) _____ (Filing Date) _____

I hereby claim the benefit of United States priority under 35 USC 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in a listed prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial #) _____ (Filing Date) _____ (Status) _____

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Daniel E. McConnell	Reg. No. 20,360	George E. Grosser	Reg. No. 25,629
Martin J. McKinley	Reg. No. 31,782	John D. Flynn	Reg. No. 35,137
John Bruce Schelkopf	Reg. No. 43,901	Stephen G. Sullivan	Reg. No. 38,329
Andrew J. Dillon	Reg. No. 29,634	Michele Liu	Reg. No. 44,875
Janyce R. Mitchell	Reg. No. 40,095		
Joseph A. Sawyer	Reg. No. 30,801		

Send correspondence to, IBM Corporation, Personal and Printing Systems Group, Legal Dept., Dept. 9CCA/Bldg. 002-2, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 and direct all telephone calls to John Bruce Schelkopf, (919) 543-4753.

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR: James Lee Chao

INVENTOR's SIGNATURE: James Lee Chao DATE: 3/26/01

RESIDENCE: 7424 Ridgefield Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27713

CITIZENSHIP: US

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: Same as residence

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR: Leonard Douglas Hobgood

INVENTOR's SIGNATURE: Leonard Douglas Hobgood DATE: 03/26/01

RESIDENCE: 3813 Berini Drive, Durham, NC 27705

CITIZENSHIP: US

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: Same as residence

A S S I G N M E N T

Whereas, we,

- (1) James Lee Chao
County of Wake
of Durham,
State of North Carolina and
- (2) Leonard Douglas Hobgood
County of Durham
of Durham,
State of North Carolina,

and executed a United States patent application therefor on the following date(s):

- (1) 3/26, 2001 and
(2) 3/24, 2001.

Which is titled: **Method and System for Sticky Key Prevention for Keyboard or Keypad Devices**

Whereas, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION, a corporation of New York, having a place of business at Armonk, New York 10504, (hereinafter called IBM), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention, and to any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for a valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, we, the above named, hereby acknowledge our prior existing obligation and hereby sell, assign, and transfer to IBM, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and invention therein disclosed for the United States and foreign countries, and all rights of priority resulting from the filing of the United States application, and we request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to IBM, its successors and assigns; and we hereby agree that IBM may apply for foreign Letters Patent on the invention and we will execute all papers necessary in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by IBM.

Signed and sealed:

	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
(1)	<u>RTP, NC</u>	<u>3/26/01</u>	<u>James Lee Chao</u> James Lee Chao
(2)	<u>RTP, NC</u>	<u>03/26/01</u>	<u>Leonard Douglas Hobgood</u> Leonard Douglas Hobgood